

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims, in which text to be added is underlined and text to be deleted is stricken through (and, in claim 9, surrounded by double brackets), will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An implantable medical device, comprising:

an expandable support frame having a plurality of struts ~~interconnected by bends~~, at least one of the struts having a lengthwise axis and defining ~~a serpentine~~ an undulating path forming an annular structure and having a first portion having a first width, a second portion having a second width, and a third portion having a third width, the second and third portions comprising bends in the ~~serpentine~~ undulating path, the second and third widths being greater than the first width and the first portion disposed between the second and third portions;

a graft ~~member~~ sheet having an edge extending from ~~the~~ inner and outer surfaces thereof, the edge in direct contact with a surface of the at least one of the struts of the expandable support frame; and

at least one attachment element disposed circumferentially around the first portion of the at least one of the struts and through a thickness of the graft ~~member~~ sheet;

wherein each of the first, second, and third widths being measured on an axis disposed orthogonally to and in the same plane as the lengthwise axis of the at least one of the struts;

wherein the edge of the graft member is free of direct contact with the second and third portions of the at least one of the struts.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the struts includes a curvilinear portion and a linear portion.
4. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 3, wherein the linear portion comprises the first portion having the first width.
5. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the second and third portions define a projection.
6. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 5, wherein the projection has a substantially square, substantially triangular, substantially rectangular, or substantially semi-circular cross-sectional shape.
7. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the second and third portions define first and second opposing projections, and wherein the attachment element is disposed around the strut and between the first and second opposing projections.
8. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the attachment element is disposed around the strut at the first portion of the strut.
9. (Withdrawn – currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim ~~[[8]]~~ 1, wherein the attachment element is disposed around the strut and between the second and third portions of the strut.
10. (Currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, the graft ~~member~~ sheet further comprising an extracellular matrix material.

11. (Previously presented) An implantable medical device according to claim 10, wherein the extracellular matrix material comprises small intestine submucosa.

12. (Withdrawn - currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the graft ~~member~~ sheet comprises a natural or synthetic polymer.

13. (Currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the graft ~~member~~ sheet defines a valve for regulating fluid flow through the implantable medical device.

14. (Previously presented) An implantable medical device according to claim 13, wherein the valve is adapted to regulate fluid flow through a body vessel in which said implantable medical device is adapted to be implanted.

15. (Withdrawn - currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the graft ~~member~~ sheet extends substantially coplanar with the strut.

16. (Canceled)

Claims 17-29 (Canceled)

30. (Withdrawn) A method of fabricating an implantable medical device, comprising:

providing a support frame having a projection in a first position;

placing at least a portion of graft material defining at least one opening on the support frame such that the projection is passed through the at least one opening;

bending the projection over a portion of the graft member such that a portion of the projection extends adjacent to the graft member; and
clamping the projection against the graft member and support frame.

31. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device, comprising:
an expandable support frame having a plurality of struts;
a graft member having an edge in contact with a surface of a strut of the expandable support frame;
at least one clip member having a C-shaped inner surface disposed around the graft member and the strut; and
securement means disposed between the graft member and the strut member.

32. (New) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the expandable support frame comprises a self-expandable support frame.